

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

None of the claims has been amended. However, for the Examiner's convenience, a complete listing of the claims with their current status is presented hereinbelow.

In the Claims:

1. – 33. (Canceled)

34. (Previously Presented) An anastomosis connector comprising:
a base adapted for attachment to a graft,
a leading segment extending from said base and adapted for introduction into a host vessel;
a rear segment extending from said base; and
a hinge zone associated with said base and comprising at least one torsion member, wherein by means of said at least one torsion member said rear segment is torsionally deflectable about said hinge zone relative to said base such that said connector can be advanced into a host vessel, and wherein, upon returning to a substantially undeflected position, said rear segment prohibits retraction of said connector from the host vessel; and

wherein said base defines an angle between a distal end of said graft and a portion of said host vessel adjacent said connector upon forming an anastomosis, wherein said angle is less than about 90°; and further comprising a collar adapted for attachment to said connector, wherein said collar comprises a wireform.

35. (Previously Presented) The connector of claim 34, wherein said wireform is produced by removing material from stock selected from a group consisting of tube stock and flat stock.

36. – 55. (Canceled)

56. (Previously Presented) An anastomosis connector comprising:
a base adapted for attachment to a graft,
a leading segment extending from said base and adapted for introduction into a host vessel;

a rear segment extending from said base; and
a hinge zone associated with said base and comprising at least one torsion member, wherein by means of said at least one torsion member said rear segment is torsionally deflectable about said hinge zone relative to said base such that said connector can be advanced into a host vessel, and wherein, upon returning to a substantially undeflected position, said rear segment prohibits retraction of said connector from the host vessel; and

wherein said base defines an angle between a distal end of said graft and a portion of said host vessel adjacent said connector upon forming an anastomosis, wherein said angle is less than about 90° and wherein said connector comprises a plurality of interconnected links having spaces therebetween and adapted to engage the inner surface of the host vessel and at least said leading and rear segments are formed from said interconnected links.

57. (Previously Presented) An anastomosis connector comprising:

a base adapted for attachment to a graft,

a leading segment extending from said base and adapted for introduction into a host vessel;

a rear segment extending from said base; and

a hinge zone associated with said base and comprising at least one torsion member, wherein by means of said at least one torsion member said rear segment is torsionally deflectable about said hinge zone relative to said base such that said connector can be advanced into a host vessel, and wherein, upon returning to a substantially undeflected position, said rear segment prohibits retraction of said connector from the host vessel; and wherein said base defines an angle between a distal end of said graft and a portion of said host vessel adjacent said connector upon forming an anastomosis, wherein said angle is less than about 90° and wherein said connector comprises a plurality of interconnected links having spaces therebetween and adapted to engage the inner surface of the host vessel and said at least one lateral portion is formed from said interconnected links.

58. – 76. (Canceled)